

**REMARKS:****DRAWINGS:**

The Examiner has objected to the Figures for not showing every feature of the invention. More specifically, the Examiner has pointed to the language in claims 6 and 17, "wherein the trailing shield is magnetically continuous to a back gap of the magnetic head". Claims 6 and 17 have been amended to recite that the trailing shield is magnetically connected with the return pole. Support for this amendment to claims 6 and 17 can be found on page 13, line 23 to page 14 line 6, where it is taught that a ferromagnetic return layer 1302 is connects the trailing shield 802 with the return pole 816.

Figures 1 and 2 have been amended to indicate that they are prior art. A substitute drawing sheet is included with this amendment.

**SPECIFICATION:**

The Examiner has objected to the Title of the Invention as not being descriptive of the invention. Accordingly the Title of the Invention has been amended to render it more descriptive of the invention.

The Examiner has also objected to several informalities in the claims. Claims 12, 16 and 18 have been amended to correct these informalities. As for the informalities in claim 32, these are moot in light of claim 32 being withdrawn from consideration.

**Rejections:****35. U.S.C. 112:**

Claims 6 and 12-20 have been rejected as being indefinite, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Claims 6 and 17 have been rejected because of language that states that the trailing shield is “magnetically continuous to a back gap of the magnetic head”. These claims have been amended to recite that the trailing shield is “magnetically connected with the return pole”. Support for this amendment to claims 6 and 17 can be found on page 13, line 23 to page 14 line 6, where it is taught that a ferromagnetic return layer 1302 is connects the trailing shield 802 with the return pole 816.

Claim 12 has been rejected because of language that states, “a shaping layer positioned between the probe pole piece and the insulation stack”, and because the lack of antecedent basis for “a pole”. Claim 12 has been amended to overcome these rejections.

Claim 17 has been rejected because the language that the trailing shield is magnetically continuous to the back gap. Claim 17 has been amended to overcome this rejection in a manner similar to that with which claim 6 has been amended.\

**35 U.S.C. 102, and 103:**

Claims 1, 3 5-12, 14 and 16-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102, and Claims 4 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103. However, the Examiner has also stated that claims 2 and 13 would be allowable if re-written to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 and if put in independent form. Accordingly, the Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, making claim 1 as amended allowable over the prior art. Similarly, the Applicant has

amended claim 12 to incorporate the limitations of claim 13 and to overcome the 112 rejections as discussed above. Therefore, claims 1 and 12 as amended are allowable over the prior art. Claims 2 and 13 have therefore, been cancelled.

Since claims 3-11 depend from allowable claim 1, they too are allowable over the prior art. Similarly, claims 14-20 which depend from allowable claim 12 are also allowable over the prior art.

The Applicant believes that the claims remaining for consideration are now in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is, therefore, sincerely requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 971-2573. For payment of any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2587 (Order No. HSI920030273US1).

Respectfully submitted,

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